

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. **(Original)** A water activating method comprising:

providing at least one pair of permanent magnets with an N pole and an S pole thereof being opposed to each other across a water flow tube and arranging concave yokes in a pair that are formed by molding magnetic metal or magnetic ceramic so that the concave yokes are opposed to each other with a predetermined gap therebetween and that each of the concave yokes magnetically makes a contact with a surface of one of the permanent magnets opposite to a surface thereof that is opposed to another one of the permanent magnets;

laminating a non-magnetic conductive metal layer inside the concave yokes including the gap therebetween and excluding contact areas that make a contact with the permanent magnets, the non-magnetic conductive metal layer being formed by single plating made of either one of metals of copper, silver, and gold or composite plating made of the metals, or a composite metal plate formed by laminating films made of the metals, thereby improving an electric potential inside the pair of the concave yokes; and

causing, with water passing through the water flow tube, an electromotive current occurring in a direction perpendicular to a direction of a flow of water and a direction of magnetic lines of force occurring between the permanent magnets to repulsively act by an electric potential inside the yokes in a longitudinal direction of the water flow tube,

thereby performing a process by causing electrons and a magnetic force occurring between the permanent magnets to act upon the flow of water in the water flow tube.

2. **(Original)** A water activating apparatus comprising:

at least one pair of concave yokes formed by molding magnetic metal or magnetic ceramic;

an N pole formed by a permanent magnet provided so as to magnetically make a contact with an inner surface of one of the concave yokes; and

an S pole formed by a permanent magnet provided so as to magnetically make a contact with an inner surface of another one of the concave yokes, wherein

the concave yokes are arranged so as to have a predetermined gap with the N pole and the S pole being opposed to each other,

a non-magnetic conductive metal layer is laminated inside the concave yokes including the gap therebetween and excluding contact areas that make a contact with the N pole and the S pole, the non-magnetic conductive metal layer being formed by single plating made of either one of metals of copper, silver, and gold or composite plating made of the metals, or a composite metal plate formed by laminating films made of the metals, and

a non-magnetic water flow tube is provided between the N pole and the S pole that are opposed to each other to allow a flow of water to pass therethrough in a direction perpendicular to a direction of magnetic lines of force from the N pole to the S pole, thereby activating the flow of water.

3. **(Original)** The water activating apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising a box for accommodating the concave yokes including a part of the water flow tube, wherein an outer surface of the box is covered with either one of chrome plating and a chrome metal plate made of strong diamagnetic metal.

4. **(Currently amended)** The water activating apparatus according to claim 2-~~or 3~~, wherein the non-magnetic conductive metal layer is formed by either one of composite plating and a composite metal plate formed by metals of different electric potentials, with a high-potential metal being positioned on a side of the water flow tube.

5. **(Currently amended)** The water activating apparatus according to ~~any one of claims 2 through 4~~ claim 2, wherein the flow of water passing through the water flow tube is kept from contact with the concave yokes and the non-magnetic conductive metal layer.

6. (New) The water activating apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the non-magnetic conductive metal layer is formed by either one of composite plating and a composite metal plate formed by metals of different electric potentials, with a high-potential metal being positioned on a side of the water flow tube.

7. (New) The water activating apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the flow of water passing through the water flow tube is kept from contact with the concave yokes and the non-magnetic conductive metal layer.

8. (New) The water activating apparatus according to claim 4, wherein the flow of water passing through the water flow tube is kept from contact with the concave yokes and the non-magnetic conductive metal layer.